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S E C R E T SANAA 002769

SIPDIS

E.O. 12958: DECL: 11/22/2013

TAGS: MCAP PARM PREL YM KN DEMARCHE

SUBJECT: DEMARCHE TO YEMENI FM QIRBI ON DPRK MILITARY  
CONTACTS

REF: A. SECSTATE 325049

1B. SANAA 2550

1C. SANAA 2463

1D. SANAA 1990

1E. SANAA 1455

Classified By: Classified by Charge D' Affaires Alan G. Misenheimer  
for reasons 1.5 (b), (d) and (h).

¶1. (S) On November 22, Charge, accompanied by Pol/Econ Chief, called on FM Qirbi to deliver ref a demarche, which Charge noted was a follow-up to discussions with President Saleh by both U/S Bolton and NEA A/S Burns (ref c), as well as Ambassador's meeting with Defense Minister Aliwa (ref b). Other topics from the meeting are reported septels.

¶2. (S) Qirbi stated repeatedly that Saleh had made clear Yemen's policy, i.e. that there would be no further cooperation with North Korea. There will be no new contracts, said Qirbi, stressing also that Yemen would make no/no payment of any sort to North Korea. Rather, he said, the ROYG is attempting to extract from the North Koreans full service -- i.e. the missile repairs -- for "money already paid which we cannot get back from them." He observed in passing that U.S. compensation could simplify the issue. Qirbi concluded with a promise to confer with the Ministry of Finance and convey a further reply after the impending government closure for the eid al-fitr holiday.

MISENHEIMER